

DES MOINES REGISTER/CNN/MEDIACOM IOWA POLL

SELZER & COMPANY

Study #2182

December 10-13, 2018

450 Registered Republicans

Margin of error:  $\pm 4.6$  percentage points

503 registered Republican contacts

weighted by age and congressional district

455 Democratic likely caucusgoers

Margin of error:  $\pm 4.6$  percentage points

1,838 active registered voter contacts

weighted by age and congressional district

**Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.**

A. Are you a resident of the state of Iowa and registered to vote here?

100 Yes **Continue**

No

Not sure

**Terminate and do not collect demographics.**

**[Ask all.]**

1. How likely is it you will attend one of the caucuses scheduled for February of 2020 when presidential candidates will be on the agenda—will you definitely attend, probably attend, or probably not attend? **(If definitely or probably attend, ask:) Will you attend the Democratic or the Republican caucus?**

**Reg  
Reps**

- Definitely attend Democratic caucus

- Probably attend Democratic caucus

23 Definitely attend Republican caucus

24 Probably attend Republican caucus

47 Probably not attend a caucus

3 Don't know which caucus will attend

3 Not sure

12. Now, I'm going to mention some Republicans. For each, please tell me if your feelings are very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly unfavorable, or very unfavorable. If you don't know enough about the person to answer, just say so. (Record "don't know" as "not sure." Rotate list.)

Among registered Republicans	Net Fav	Net Unf	Very Favorable	Mostly Favorable	Mostly Unfavorable	Very Unfavorable	Not Sure
Chuck Grassley, U.S. senator from Iowa*	87	7	54	33	4	3	6
George W. Bush, former U.S. president	87	9	43	44	6	3	5
Joni Ernst, U.S. senator from Iowa*	82	6	43	40	4	2	12
Kim Reynolds, governor of Iowa	81	12	42	39	8	4	7
Donald Trump, president of the United States	77	18	49	28	7	11	5
Ted Cruz, U.S. senator from Texas	68	20	25	43	16	5	12
Mitt Romney, U.S. senator-elect from Utah	65	21	16	49	14	7	14
Marco Rubio, U.S. senator from Florida	63	18	21	42	12	6	20
Steve King, U.S. congressman from Iowa	58	22	23	35	10	11	20
Nikki Haley, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations	52	6	29	23	3	3	42
Matthew Whitaker, acting U.S. attorney general	37	8	17	21	5	3	55
John Kasich, governor of Ohio	31	26	9	22	16	10	43
Ben Sasse, U.S. senator from Nebraska	24	11	8	16	6	5	65
Jeff Flake, U.S. senator from Arizona	16	27	4	13	10	17	57
Bob Corker, U.S. senator from Tennessee	15	13	3	12	6	7	72

\*These two questions started in the field Tuesday, so n=344. MoE: ±5.3 percentage points.

13. In 2020, there will be normal Republican Party caucuses. There may or may not be candidates challenging Donald Trump for the Republican nomination. Do you think the Republican Party of Iowa should welcome challengers to Iowa to compete at the caucuses or discourage them from competing in Iowa?

Reg  
Reps

63 Should welcome challengers  
26 Should discourage challengers  
11 Not sure

14. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Donald Trump is doing as president?

Reg  
Reps

81 Approve  
14 Disapprove  
4 Not sure

15. If the general election vote for president of the United States were held today with Donald Trump as the Republican candidate, would you definitely vote to re-elect President Trump, consider someone else, or definitely vote to elect someone else, or would you not vote?

**Reg  
Reps**

- 67 Definitely vote to re-elect Trump
- 19 Consider someone else
- 10 Definitely vote to elect someone else
- 1 Would not vote
- 3 Not sure

16. For each of the following Republicans, please tell me if you think you could ever support the person for president **in the future** or would never support the person for president. (**Read list. Rotate.**)

<b>Among registered Republicans</b>	<b>Ever</b>	<b>Never</b>	<b>Not sure</b>
Marco Rubio	59	30	11
Mitt Romney	53	37	10
Nikki Haley	46	21	33
John Kasich	31	39	30
Ben Sasse	21	31	48
Jeff Flake	14	47	39
Bob Corker	11	40	49

17. Within the Republican party, there are those who agree and those who disagree with President Trump on some issues. For each of the following plans or actions the president has taken, please tell me if you think it was a good move or a mistake. (**Rotate list.**)

<b>Among registered Republicans</b>	<b>Good Move</b>	<b>Mistake</b>	<b>Not Sure</b>
Sending U.S. military troops to the southern border to respond to the caravan of immigrants making its way across Mexico	83	12	5
Naming Brett Kavanaugh to the U.S. Supreme Court	81	7	12
Signing the Tax Cuts and Jobs act into law	78	9	13
Building a wall on the southern border of the U.S.	74	21	5
Reducing the number of people allowed to immigrate legally to the U.S.	71	19	9
Moving the U.S. Embassy in Israel to Jerusalem	70	9	21
Holding campaign-style rallies on a regular basis during his time in office	70	19	11
Imposing tariffs on imports from selected countries	69	22	9
Openly questioning the findings of U.S. government scientists or intelligence agencies	59	25	16
Pulling out of the Paris agreement on climate change	57	26	17
Withdrawing from the Trans Pacific Partnership	55	19	26
Firing Jeff Sessions as attorney general	54	21	25
Posting potentially inflammatory messages on Twitter on a regular basis	19	72	9

18. For each of the following, please tell me if this is an essential trait you'd like to see in an American president—just answer yes or no. **(Mark all that apply. Rotate list.)**

**Reg**  
**Reps**

- 90 A person with a strong moral compass
- 90 A person who will tell the truth, even if I don't agree
- 87 Someone who will not raise the national debt
- 87 Someone who will unite the country
- 85 A person with experience cutting budgets
- 83 Someone who will restore relationships with longtime U.S. allies
- 83 Believer in small government
- 80 Someone who represents the future of the Republican Party
- 72 A person with deep knowledge of policy and politics
- 69 Christian conservative
- 64 Someone who respects decorum
- None of these (VOL)
- 1 Not sure

19. In the recent midterm elections, the Democrats won a majority of the seats in the House of Representatives, which gives them the power to set the legislative agenda. Who do you think is more to blame for Republican losses in last month's elections? **(Rotate items.)**

**Reg**  
**Reps**

- 54 The Republicans in Congress
- 24 President Trump
- 22 Not sure

20. Donald Trump was not a career politician before becoming president. Do you think that has done more to help or more to hurt his effectiveness as president?

**Reg**  
**Reps**

- 65 More to help
- 22 More to hurt
- 12 Not sure

21. Do you believe Donald Trump cares more about: **(Rotate options.)**

	<b>People like you</b>	<b>People like Donald Trump</b>	<b>Not sure</b>
<b>Reg</b>			
<b>Reps</b>			
<b>Dec-18</b>	55	26	19

22. Would you say you feel more allegiance to the [Republican Party] or [President Trump]? **(Rotate options.)**

**Reg**  
**Reps**

- 43 Republican Party
- 37 President Trump
- 20 Not sure

## ABOUT THE POLL

The Iowa Poll, conducted December 10-13, 2018, for *The Des Moines Register*, CNN and Mediacom by Selzer & Co. of Des Moines, is based on telephone interviews with 455 registered voters in Iowa who say they will definitely or probably participate in the 2020 Democratic caucuses and 450 registered Republicans.

Interviewers with Quantel Research contacted 1,838 randomly selected active voters from the Iowa secretary of state's voter registration list by telephone. The sample was supplemented with additional phone number lookups. Interviews were administered in English. Responses for all contacts were adjusted by age and congressional district to reflect their proportions among active voters in the list. For the registered Republican sample, responses for the 503 registered Republican contacts were adjusted by age and congressional district to reflect their proportions among active registered Republicans in the voter registration list.

Questions based on the sample of 455 voters likely to attend the 2020 Iowa Democratic caucuses have a maximum margin of error of plus or minus 4.6 percentage points, as does the sample of 450 registered Republicans. This means that if this survey were repeated using the same questions and the same methodology, 19 times out of 20, the findings would not vary from the true population value by more than plus or minus 4.6 percentage points. Results based on smaller samples of respondents—such as by gender or age—have a larger margin of error.

Republishing the copyright Iowa Poll without credit to *The Des Moines Register*, CNN, and Mediacom is prohibited.